

NOS. 15-17 EAST MAIN STREET

The main architectural function of 15-17 East Main Street is to maintain the near-continuity of facades which rise perpendicularly with the sidewalk in almost unbroken line between Railroad Avenue and Longwell Avenue in Westminster. They also provide a pleasant, and perhaps necessary, rest between the sforzando notes struck by the Wantz Building and by the Albion Hotel. Their ordinariness creates this pause - each is totally a product of a mid-Atlantic vernacular tradition that so thoroughly controlled the City's buildings for a century and a half. Everything about each building has an ancestor and a descendant probably located within 100' of this site. Interestingly, the more recent of the two (no. 17, built c. 1870) is far more pleasing to the eye than is the older structure, (built c. 1870); the windows in no. 15 give the impression of being lost in an expansive pea-green brick, when compared to the almost cozy feeling one gets looking at the second and third stories of no. 17.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Carroll 423
0704234511

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

H. Haines and Company, Store - George W. Matthews Office

AND/OR COMMON

Towne Pride Interiors - The Villager Restaurant

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

15-17 East Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES RESTRICTED

☐ YES UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Albaugh & Babylon Grocery Company

Telephone #: 848-5760

STREET & NUMBER

c/o David S. Babylon, Jr. - 10 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: 128

Folio #: 380

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CARR-423

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED (Slightly
on ground floor only)

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Although they were built at different times, and although they have served slightly-different functions, nos. 15-17 East Main Street might be better treated as a single unit, than as separate identities. The reasons for this are two-fold; first, they may have been built at different times, but the architect of no. 17 (the latter one) clearly wished to have them read as a single unit, and second, the buildings and the lots they are erected on have always been owned by the same people.

The two, three-bay building looks south, to the north side of East Main Street (St. Route 32) about 90 feet east of that street's intersection of Railroad Avenue (St. Route 27) in Westminster. The buildings rest quietly between their low foundation and their gently sloping, tinned-over gable roofs. Number 15 is the older of the two buildings, and when no. 17 was built around 1880, it must have been intended to be a mirror image of its neighbor. On the ground floor, each building has, slightly off center, an "entrance unit" consisting of a central door diagonally recessed between plate glass display windows. The balance of the ground floor - to the east in no. 15, to the west, in no. 17 - contains a large single-paned, 19th century door leading to the apartments above; these doors might well be original, but the other ground floor doors and windows are clearly products of mid 20th century. Each building's ground floor uses wood to separate it from the stories above; no. 17 uses a narrow two-part entablature, while no. 15 uses four planed boards.

Both buildings have 3, double-hung sash windows on their second and third floors. All twelve windows are not in the best of repair; the central and western openings on no. 17's second story, are six-over-six paned, while the rest have one large pane per sash. The windows are somewhat enlivened by 4 course gauged flat arches and by wooden sills (the sills' color matches the building's color, that is, white for no. 17 and green-grey for no. 15). Each building is topped by similar-bracketed, modillioned, two-part entablature - in fact, this crown runs continuously across both buildings. Both structures' entablatures are fairly routine, as are the seven, scroll brackets which support the three on no. 15, four on 17; the brackets are placed alternately with the windows. Each bracket has a cloven-hoof form of applique in its base reminiscent of that found on 197-199-201 East Main Street; two, narrow, wooden bands run with this surmounting arrangement, the viz., one through the center of each bracket, one at each base. A broad, flat-capped (non-functioning) chimney rests at the peak of the roof at the eastern end of no. 17. The western wall of no. 15 is blind, as is the eastern wall of no. 17. The north facades of both buildings are utilitarian, and have suffered various and continuous remodellings; presently they are hidden behind sheds made of corrugated sheet metal.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1870; c. 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main architectural function of 15-17 East Main Street is to maintain the near-continuity of facades which rise perpendicularly with the sidewalk in almost unbroken line between Railroad Avenue and Longwell Avenue in the City. They also provide a pleasant, and perhaps necessary, rest between the sforzando notes struck by the Wantz Building and the Albion Hotel. Their **ordinariness** creates this pause; each is totally a product of the mid-Atlantic vernacular tradition that so thoroughly controlled the City's buildings for 150 years. Everything about each building has an ancestor and a descendant probably located within **100 feet of this** site. Interestingly, a believer in the eternal progression of mankind would be more pleased with these buildings than would a devout antiquarian; the more recent (no. 17) is far more pleasing to the eye than is the older structure; the windows in number 15 give the impression of being lost in an expanse of green brick when compared to the almost cozy feeling one gets looking at the second and third stories of no. 17. This result is probably accidental, but still serves to point out the importance of minding the inches.

William Crouse acquired this 60' x 198' parcel from William Shreeve on September 2, 1836 (Frederick County Deed Book HS 4, Page 295, 296). Crouse kept the land for the rest of his life, and is almost certainly responsible for building nos. 15-17; the 1877 plat of the City shows the existence of no. 15, but the western half of lot 10, where no. 17 would be built, is vacant (except for a small shack placed some feet back from the sidewalk); however, the 1887 City Directory has tenants for both buildings. We find, in the directory, that George W. Matthews had his office in no. 17, and "H. Haines and Company, Store" was located in no. 15. In any event, Benjamin F. Crouse, administrator of William Crouse, sold the entire property to George W. Albaugh for \$8100 on January 27, 1885 (Carroll County Deed Book 62, Page 29). Albaugh has been associated with the property since that date. On July 1, 1901, he sold this parcel (and dozens of others) to George W. Albaugh Real Estate and Brokerage Company for \$48,500 (93/295), which sold our 60' x 198' lot to Miller Brothers Company for \$20,000 on November 5, 1908 (110/117); Albaugh kept control of the lot by virtue of a mortgage. The Miller Brothers Company defaulted on this mortgage (recorded in Mortgage Book 55/36) on March 13, 1915, resulting in equity case 4829. The public sale that soon followed, saw Charles E. Fink, attorney, sell the property to the Albaugh and Babylon Grocery Company on March 8, 1916 (128/389), and it is this organization that apparently holds ownership today.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the western half of lot no. 10, and the eastern half of lot no. 11 as shown on a plat of "Winter's Addition to Westminster" recorded among the Land Records of Frederick County in Book JS 2, Page 195, 196.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

February, 1977

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall- Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

FHR-8-253 (10-78)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington D.C. 20243

Form A-100
OMB No. 4310-0047

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: 9, 11, 13 and 15 East Main Street (MD 32)

Address of property Street same

City Westminster County Carroll County State Maryland Zip Code 21157

Name of historic district in which property is located Westminster Historic District

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

see attached sheet

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary)

see attached sheet

Date of construction (if known) c. 1870, c. 1890

☒ Original site

☐ Moved

Date of alterations (if known):

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name Sherwood Square Associates c/o Charles Ellerin

Street 9 East Main Street

City Westminster State Maryland Zip Code 21157

Telephone Number (during day) Area Code (301) 997-9611

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above

Signature [Signature]

Date 10/21/92

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6). ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60); and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of the district.

Signature [Signature]

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 12-1-82

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit identification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Signature

Keeper of the National Register

Date

October 8, 1982

Historic Preservation Certification Application Part 1

1. Nos. 9, 11, 13, and 15 East Main Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

Carroll County, Maryland

Historic District: Westminster National Register Historic District

2. Description

Numbers 9, 11, 13, and 15 East Main Street consist of two buildings (9-13 and 15) constructed at different times. Each represents two distinct styles. The buildings are located on the north side of East Main Street in the Westminster National Historic District.

Number 9-13 is a two story brick commercial structure, fronting directly on East Main Street. Rectangular in plan, the building extends back approximately 200 feet to Winter's Alley. The first story and end walls are brick laid in common bond. The second story is frame with vertical boards and grooved battens on the street (south) front. The gently sloping shed roof is broken by a raised gable section which houses a skylight. Several elements of the building suggest the Second Empire Style such as the slate covered mansard front and the paired scroll brackets supporting the eaves. The symmetrical facade is distinguished by a slightly projecting central pavilion. The first story, presently divided into three separate commercial spaces, has conventional display windows and recessed openings. On the second story, the windows are arranged in groups of four; the center pavilion is marked by a group of five. All of the one-over-one windows are double hung and the upper sash of each has a border of rectangular and square lights.

The interior has been subject to various remodellings and alterations. In several rooms a suspended ceiling hides the earlier pressed metal ceiling. In the middle of the building an open well, two-run stair leads to the second floor. A square opening in the first floor ceiling opens to the skylight. Turned wooden balusters, similar to those on the stair surround the opening. The rear (north) section of the building is frame. Aluminum siding covers the east wall. The west wall is cinderblock, and there is an overhead garage door in the northwest corner. The rear section also has been altered: walls have been removed and several windows have been in-filled with brick.

Built around 1870, Number 15 East Main Street continues the traditional vernacular style of building which appears again and again in Westminster. This modest brick structure is three stories high and three bays wide. One bay deep, the building has a gable roof covered by metal sheathing. Number 15 reads as one building with its neighbor to the east (number 17) which was built at a later date. Both have similar fenestration and share the same cornice.

Historic Preservation Certification Application
Part 1 continued

The first story of Number 15 has a modern display window with a door in the western bay. A metal awning is above the display window and door. An earlier opening in the eastern bay has been in-filled and is marked by a cornice and molding. The windows on the second and third floor are six-over-six, double hung windows with wooden lintels and flat brick arches. The building has a bracketed, two-part entablature. The scroll brackets alternate with the windows below.

The north facade has undergone several alterations. A gabled two-story building extends perpendicularly from the main block. Various other sheds and storerooms obscure most of the north facade.

3. Statement of Significance

The purpose of this part of the application is to request certification of the significance of Numbers 9, 11, 13, and 15 East Main Street.

The Maryland State Historic Preservation Office in its sketch map submitted as part of the Westminster Historic National Register Nomination identified Number 15 as a contributor to the significance of the historic district. (See attached copy of a section of the sketch map. The identification "B" was used by the SHPOffice to designate contributing buildings.)

The sketch map labels Number 9-13 as "C" or not presently contributing but may become contributing through the passage of time or restoration. The building has been restored since the map was made, and it is our opinion that the building is now a contributing building to the significance of the historic district.

The Westminster Historic District is significant as the political, financial and commercial center of Carroll County in the 19th and 20th centuries. Both 9-13 and 15 East Main Street contribute to the commercial significance as late nineteenth century businesses fronting on Main Street. Their history dates back to the completion of the railroad in 1861 which encouraged commercial activity towards the western end of the original town of Westminster. George W. Albaugh, an early Westminster businessman, realized the potential of property situated near the railroad and bought a lot from William Crouse in 1885 (Frederick County Deed Book - Liber 62 Folio 29) for \$8125.00. This was considered a high price for property containing only a blacksmith shop and a small dwelling. Mr. Albaugh then built a large building with a dry goods store on the first floor and an opera house on the second. He soon retired and rented the building to Messers Kann, Sons and Company. The building burned in 1887, and Mr. Albaugh soon constructed a new building which is the present Number 9-13 East Main Street. Albaugh's new building remained a dry goods store for many years, although under different owners. The Miller Brothers operated a store until 1912 when Nusbaum and Jordan took over the business. By 1938 Coffman and Fisher were operating a department store in the building.



Photo 1 South facade of 9-13 East Main Street (photographer facing north)



Photo 2 South facade of 15 East Main Street (photographer facing north)



CARR 423

15-17 E. Main Street

Westairist

S. Jacaranda 2/77

C. Moore

38 1/2%



Q-3

CARR 423 1517 E. Main
Westminster 2/77
C. W. W.